BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Public Reprimand)	
of the Educator Certificate of)	CONSENT ORDER OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND
Cheryl Samuel Stover	,	1 ODEIO NEI NIIIAND
Certificate # 125248)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 10, 2004. On October 6 2003, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of hearing regarding the possible suspension or revocation of her certificate to Ms. Cheryl Samuel Stover by certified mail, return receipt requested delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Stover received the notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt bearing her name. Ms. Stover agreed through her attorney, Dona Guffey, Esquire, to resolve the case without a hearing upon the following terms: (1) a public reprimand will be issued by the State Board, (2) she agrees that this public reprimand will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct," and (3) this order will be maintained as a public record in the Office of General Counsel of the Department. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to issue a public reprimand for Ms. Stover's conduct as agreed to by the parties.

Ms. Stover holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has over twenty-one years of teaching experience. She was under contract with the Kershaw County School District (District) for the 2003-2004 school year. Ms. Stover resigned from the District on June 30, 2003. Allegations of breaching test security laws, regulations and procedures by allowing testing to start earlier than the mandated State start date were investigated by SLED. The Fifth Circuit Solicitor's office presented this case in front of the Kershaw County Grand Jury for consideration which in turn returned a "no billed" finding.

Accepted:

Initial Here

Date:

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. The Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented supports its conclusion that just cause does not exist to revoke or suspend his certificate; however, cause does exist for a Public Reprimand of Ms. Stover's conduct. Accordingly, the Board issues this Consent Order of Public Reprimand as set forth above.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Mary E. Jones

Dr. Mary E. Jones

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina August 10, 2004

I, Cheryl S. Stover, SC Teaching Certificate # 125248, do hereby agree to this Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, August 10, 2004.

7/17/04 _____/S/ Cheryl S. Stover

Date